

*"The time for fiscal responsibility is now"*

**Washington,** **Mar 11** - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence released the following statement in response to the Senate's passage of the



Congressman Pence,  
speaking from the floor of the  
U.S. House on March 11, 2009

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omnibus spending bill last night:

**"Unfortunately, a majority of the United States Senate voted against fiscal responsibility and decided to keep thousands of egregious earmarks in the Democrats' massive omnibus spending bill. It's becoming clear that Democrats are on the side of more government and more taxes. Families across the country are tightening their budgets, and Washington should do the same.**

**"President Obama said in his address before Congress that he was ready to go 'line by line through the federal budget in order to eliminate wasteful and ineffective programs.' The President should start with this omnibus bill, which includes roughly nine thousand earmarks, and billions of dollars in wasteful spending. Recently, I and other Republican colleagues, called on President Obama to veto this irresponsible legislation. So far, that**

call has gone unanswered.

**"In fact, statements from Administration officials suggest the President will sign this bill, simply because 'it's last year's business.' That is not the leadership the American people want or deserve. This vote strengthens the need for President Obama to veto this massive spending bill, freeze government spending, and uphold his pledge for fiscal discipline. The time for fiscal responsibility is now, and the American people are watching."**